

2-6-86

*Club Day
in Monarch Square
today
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.*

Feb. 12 and Feb. 17 are holidays

Classes will not meet on those days, and the *Star* will not publish next Thursday.



*Turn out
the lights,
the party's over*

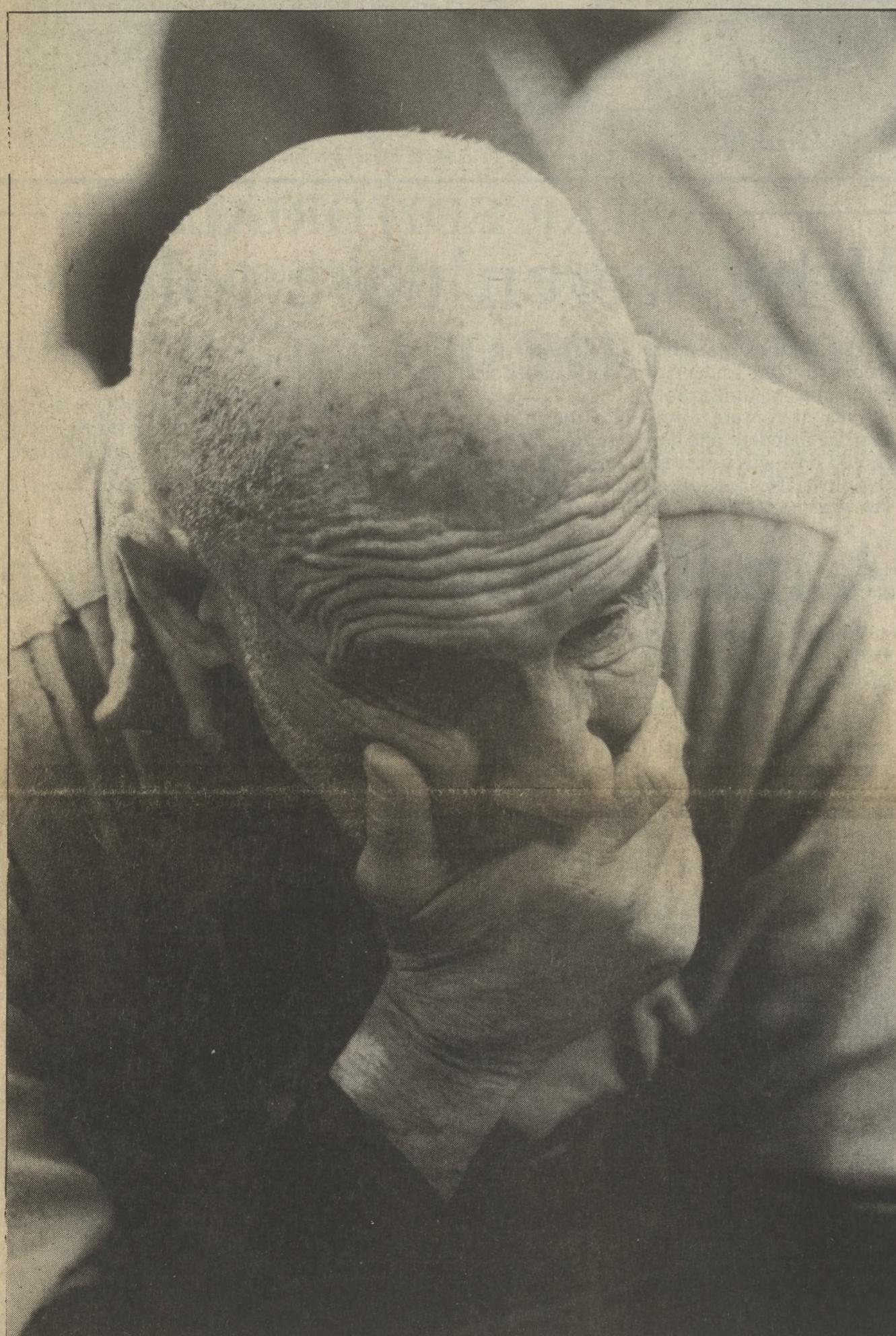
See page 2

Valley Star

Los Angeles Valley College

Thursday, February 6, 1986

Vol. 37, No. 18



PENSIVE—Valley College custodian Jules Kimmett, who regularly attends LACCD board meetings, reflects somberly

during last night's deliberations at which the Board voted to lay off nearly 150 full-time faculty from the District.

JOHN KRIL / Valley Star

Board approves faculty layoffs

Will mail 142 March 15 letters

By KIM JENKINS, News Editor

Despite desperate pleas from approximately 200 angry protesters, The L.A. Community College District (LACCD) Board of Trustees approved the laying off of 142 tenured faculty members.

In a six-to-one vote, the trustees agreed to send out March 15 letters to those faculty members that might be laid off.

Although board vice president Harold Garvin voted against the proposal, he did agree that some layoffs were necessary. Garvin noted that certain layoffs were necessary in "low-vitality programs."

"I support those layoffs that, in effect, are the closing out of programs no longer viable so that money can be shifted into newer and more successful programs."

Garvin also noted that "extremely drastic" employee cuts to save the District from bankruptcy were no longer "appropriate."

"You may save a few dollars from your action, but you will lose much more than any dollars can buy. You will lose the heart and soul of the colleges, years and years of experience, and the best teachers, possibly

forever," said Raoul Teillet, director of the California Federation of Teachers.

"We are convinced your budget next year does not require such action. Your action will result in a further reduction in the quality of offerings in this district."

"We are convinced it will force a continued decline in student enrollment in this district."

Sylvia Lubow, history professor and American Federation of Teachers chapter chair at Valley, was one of the three main speakers protesting the layoffs.

"The Board of Trustees are acting in an unreasonable manner. The firing and selected disciplines who are on the 'hit list' don't reflect reasons they are giving for eliminations."

"By reducing teachers, the Board is denying its commitment to developing full, responsible, socially concerned participants in society."

Pat Allen, professor of sociology at Valley, spoke to the board.

"I came here to beg and plead," she said. "But the chances are like a snowball in hell."

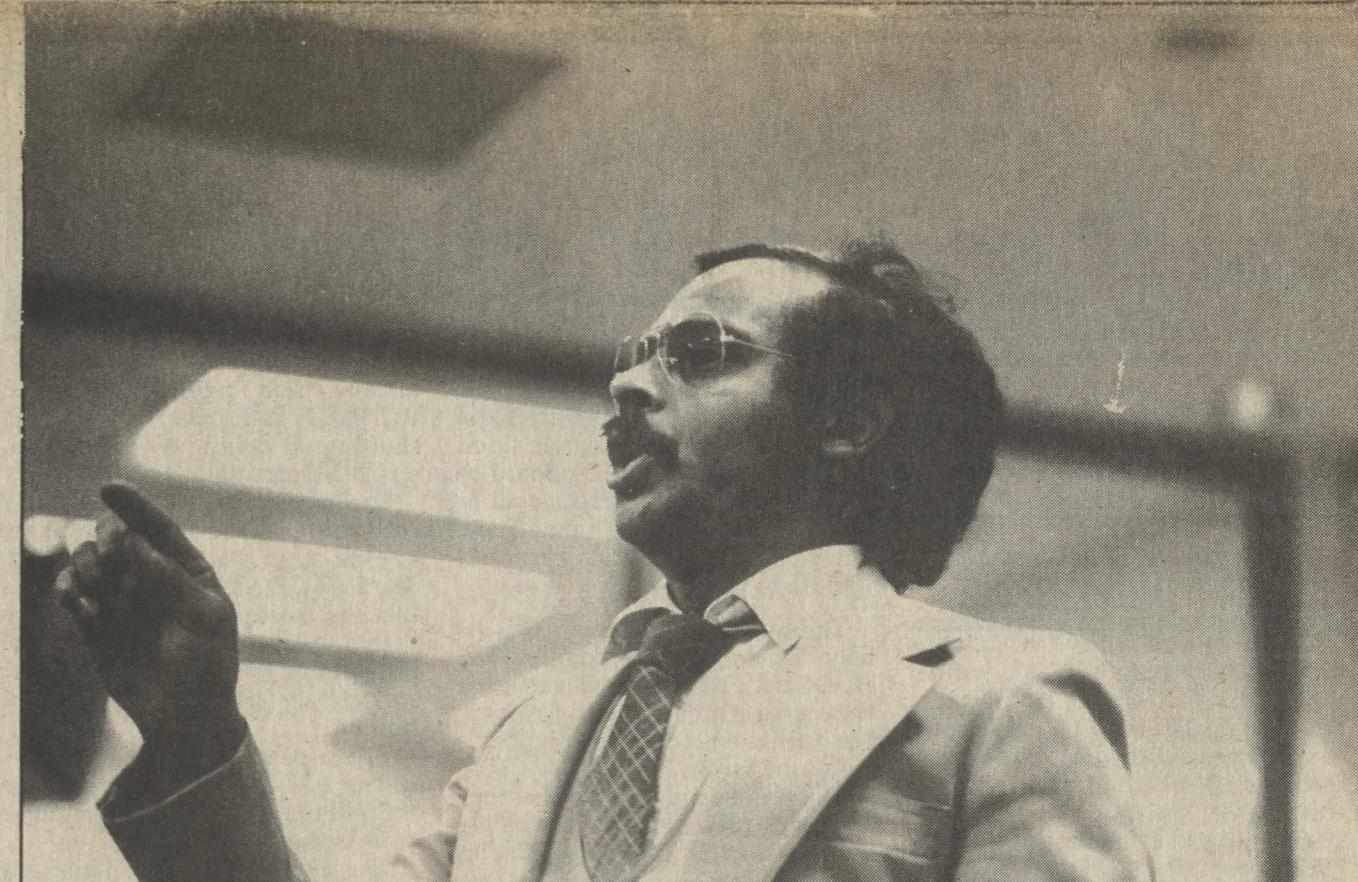
"When I first heard about this, I went home and became nauseous. The loss of a job is harder to face than the onset of cancer."

"You cannot cut off the young and vital."

Trade Tech President Thomas L. Stevens Jr. was one of the members present.

"The March 15 letters are unfortunate," he said, "but a matter of reality is required in order to balance

(Please see BUDGET, Page 3)



OUTRAGED—Juan Beato, a student at West L.A. College, expresses anger at the closing of the Airport Center.

STEVE PRINGLE / Valley Star

Internat'l Room to serve last supper

By DAVID FROST, Editor-in-Chief

When evening students finish their meals tomorrow night in Valley's International Room, it will be the last time such a service is available to them unless extra funding for the cafeteria will be forthcoming, assistant dean of administrative services, George Kopoulos, said Tuesday.

Due to a District mandate stating that all cafeterias and bookstores will make a profit or break even, Kopoulos said that Valley was forced to close the room in the evenings because it wasn't paying for itself.

All nine of the District's cafeterias operated in deficits totalling \$579,097 last year, he said.

Kopoulos pointed out three factors which led to the closure—lack of business in the evenings, high operating expenses, and employees which have retired and resigned and were never replaced.

The Room was originally

scheduled to be closed last Thursday night, but Kopoulos pushed the closure back one week "before deciding if it is profitable to run."

But Tuesday Kopoulos told the *Star* that the decision had already been made, and there would have been no changing it.

The Valley Galley, which serves fast food, will remain open in the evenings.

ASU evening division commissioner, Kevin Stuart, expressed dismay that the news of the impending closure was not made public any sooner.

"I had to hear about it by word of mouth," he said. "There were no notices posted in the cafeteria anywhere."

Stewart is also a member of Valley's food services committee. "It was never discussed at any of the committee meetings," he said.

Several students expressed pride and disappointment over the closure.

"It's a shame," said Valene Perkins, an electronics student who has been attending Valley ir-

regularly for the past 20 years.

"I work 10 hours a day, and with parking the way it is I have to come almost straight from work to get here and get a parking space at night."

"I depend on this place."

She sees the closure as a prejudice against night students.

"Why pick on night students?" she said. "Most of us work eight to 10 hours a day. We can't come here during the day or we'd be here."

Rose Llanusa, an electronics student in her fifth year as a part-time student, agrees with Perkins.

"They've cut out more night programs," she said. "They've cut down the (arcade) satellite to one worker so you have to stand in line all night long. Now they're cutting out our cafe."

The electronics courses the two women are taking are offered only in the evening.

Like several students, Dick Rose, accounting, did not find out about the closure until this week.

"I didn't realize it was closing

until I read about it in the paper (*Star*) tonight (Monday)," he said.

Night student Mark Farina said that the possibility of raising the food prices a little to offset operating expenses would have been preferable to the closure.

"If that would keep it open," he said, "then I'd be willing to pay a little more. I think this place is pretty reasonable, pricewise."

Perkins and Llanusa agreed.

Several people were surprised to hear that the Room had very little business.

"It's always pretty busy on Monday nights," said Sy Lesonsky, computer science instructor. "But I don't know how many people just come in here and sit and not buy anything."

Llanusa, who said she eats in the Room at least two nights a week, said she knew of "maybe 50 regulars, and then the others that come and go."

At one point Monday evening, 50 people were sitting at the tables in the International Room, but only 20 of them had bought food.



JEANNE K. BIEHLER / Valley Star
LAST SUPPER—Cashier and "hot line" girl Mae Marisa (with ladie) and night manager/cook Rosie whalen refill the food trays in Valley's International Room of the cafeteria, to get ready for more students. The room is closing Thursday (tonight) for evening hours.

Letters to the Star

Former Valley employee views letter from LACCD Board of Trustees President as insulting

The following two letters were delivered to the Valley Star on Feb. 3, 1986.

Dear Mr. Stark:

As you end your duties as Senior Audio Visual Technician at Los Angeles Valley College, I wish to express my appreciation for your more than fourteen years of service to the Los Angeles Community College District.

You should certainly feel pride and satisfaction in the fact that you have dedicated those years to an outstanding educational institution. Your consistent efforts have been a valuable contribution to the progress of both our College and the community at large.

It is my hope that you will, in the future, attain any personal goals you may have set up for yourself and that your retirement will be a fruitful and happy one.

Monroe F. Richman, M.D.
President
Board of Trustees
(Dated Jan. 23, 1986)

Stark's reply

Dear Dr. Richman:

I received your letter of January 23, 1986 expressing your appreciation for my years of service, and my valuable contribution to the college and the community.

You seem to have overlooked one important point; I was forced out.

I realize this is of no importance to you, which was apparent when I spoke before the board in October. You approved a layoff effective January 1, 1986, which included my position.

If you would take the time to check, you would notice all the papers I submitted state "forced retirement to avoid layoff." If I had waited for the layoff, I would have lost all of my investment for the past fourteen years of service.

As for pride and satisfaction for having worked for an outstanding educational institution, this is not the time to make

that statement.

A few years back, I would have said it was a great place to work, and a pleasure to work with students and faculty.

However, at this time with the mismanagement or perhaps lack of management, I cannot say that this an "outstanding educational institution."

When I look at the other college districts around, I see that there is something seriously wrong with the Los Angeles Community Colleges.

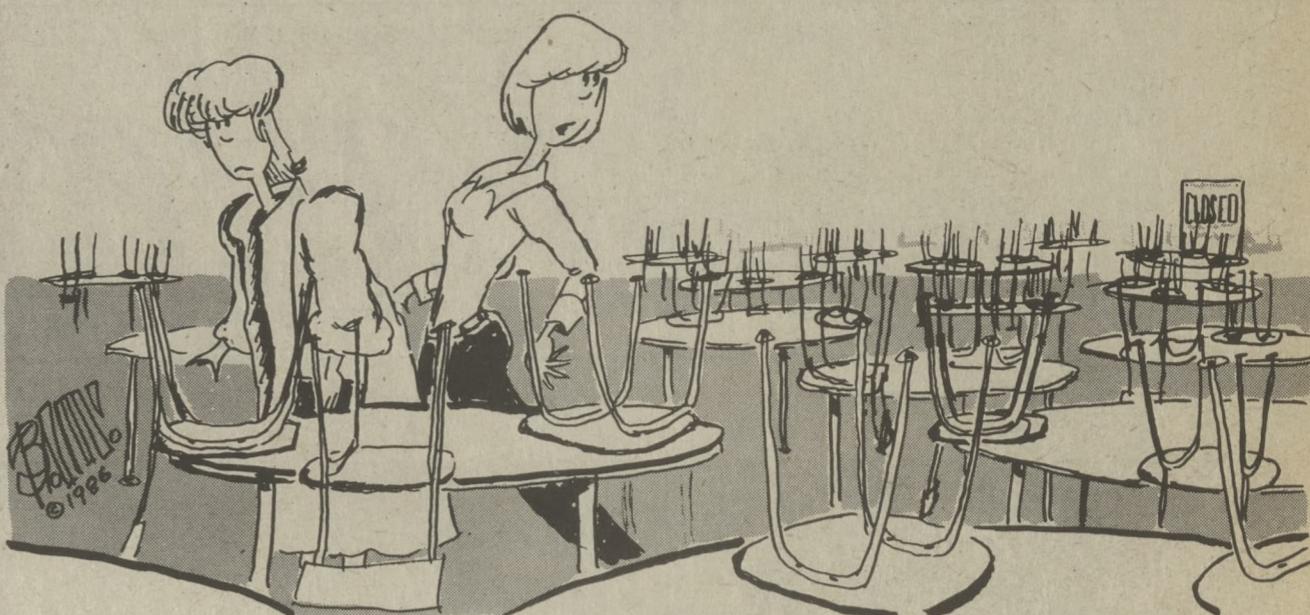
The morale of employees in this district is the lowest I have seen in many years. This is brought on by the lack of interest shown by people in responsible positions. Your letter is a prime example.

To close, I want to make it clear that I did not retire because I wanted to, I WAS FORCED TO RETIRE.

Lloyd C. Stark
(Former Valley technician)

(dated Jan. 29, 1986)

INTERNATIONAL ROOM



"Are you sure it's really closed? I thought it was always this empty at night."

STAR EDITORIALS—
Why weren't we told?

The decision to close the International Room to night students was not handled well by campus administrators.

True, they were forced into the move by District mandate and low business, but they should have given students ample warning of the move. Nothing was posted in the Room last week notifying students of the closure, and

several students interviewed by the *Star* were surprised by the news.

George Kopoulos, Valley's assistant dean of Administrative services, said that the possibility of closing the Room had been long discussed.

Students should have been made aware of these discussions.

A million-dollar mistake

When it comes to balancing the budget, L.A. Community College District (LACCD) officials are walking around with blinders on.

As options for reducing the budget, they are considering laying off teachers and classified workers, regionalization of certain programs, and many other things which would have a negative impact on education. Yet they fail to see the one obvious unjustifiable expenditure that can be done away with or at least substantially reduced: the downtown District office building.

The lease on the office building bleeds the District of \$992,000 per year—nearly \$1 million. Such an expense at a time of financial crisis is inexcusable. The District offices need to be relocated to one or more campus locations, for which no rent need be paid.

How could protestors at yesterday's Board of Trustees meeting take the trustees' cries of financial hardships seriously? While the trustees were considering layoffs, the protestors were able to see the environment the District officials work in: modern offices, good carpeting and furniture, and new office machines.

It is easy to understand the protestors' indignation.

District officials are obviously swift at swinging the axe—as long as it doesn't jeopardize their working conditions.

Last March at a candidates forum at Valley (in which all candidates for the Board of Trustees seats two, four, and six addressed a very vocal audience) incumbent and eventually re-elected trustees Lindsay Conner, Wallace Albertson, and Arthur Bronson assured the audience that the District was making every attempt to move the offices from the building.

At the time, they said that the landlord of the building would not let them sublease it.

It took until November for the board members to adopt a resolution asking District staff to prepare a report on the possibility of relocation. The report was to be due in two months.

In a budget reduction analysis released two weeks ago, the District revealed that the landlord had agreed to let them sublease the building. However, the statement had no official figures on savings, and no real alter-

natives to offer the board members. In addition, the report discussed only subleasing a few of the floors of office space, and then actually recommended against it.

Is this the best the District staff could do after two months of working on a report? The analysis does not say anything that was not already known, and the excuses for not moving are just the same worn-out excuses that have been made in the past.

The Board of Trustees should not accept this report as the final word on the subject, but should push the staff into finding real alternatives and solutions—the best one being that they should move out of the building altogether and sublease it.

The District has been claiming that a \$992,000 yearly price tag is a bargain for what they are actually getting—seven full floors. Fine. Pass the bargain on to someone else.

Even if they have to remove \$100,000 or so from the yearly rent to make it highly attractive to tenants, that would still be \$820,000 less that the District would have to shell out per year.

District officials should work toward finding possible tenants, and making the deal as attractive as possible. Once a tenant is found, the rest should be easy.

Although the District may not realize any savings within the first couple of years, in the long run, the savings from operating out of rent-free buildings will be substantial.

The aforementioned analysis stated that "the cost of relocation might exceed savings."

"Might?" Don't they know? They should have some kind of estimate of expenses after all this time. Finding out the costs involved was an integral part of compiling the board-ordered report.

In addition, they have to move out of that building sometime. The concern expressed in the analysis might lead one to believe that they plan to stay there forever.

They need to move out of that building now and sublease it before the million dollar price tag bleeds this District at the expense of teachers, workers, and the quality of education.

LACCD cutting—out of control

By BLANCA L. ADAJIAN, Opinion Editor

Los Angeles Valley College seems to be in the near-to-last stages of a terminal disease.

Scissortitis runs amuckis.

At a time when CSUN is over-enrolled, has a waiting list, and has upped its entrance requirements, Valley College is under-enrolled and trying to institute recruitment programs. Possibly a day late and a dollar short.

Back a few years ago, this campus used to have an enrollment of around 25,000 and now it is hovering around 15,000.

Valley College used to offer many fine and diverse programs to choose from for students. Now there are limited choices. And even if you do have a choice, the threat of class cancellation hangs over the student a few weeks into the semester. This, of course, makes it too late to go elsewhere for that semester for that particular class.

Community Colleges have always been and still are the step-children of the California educational system. Despite this attitude the community colleges have, in the past, provided a beginning place for countless numbers of people.

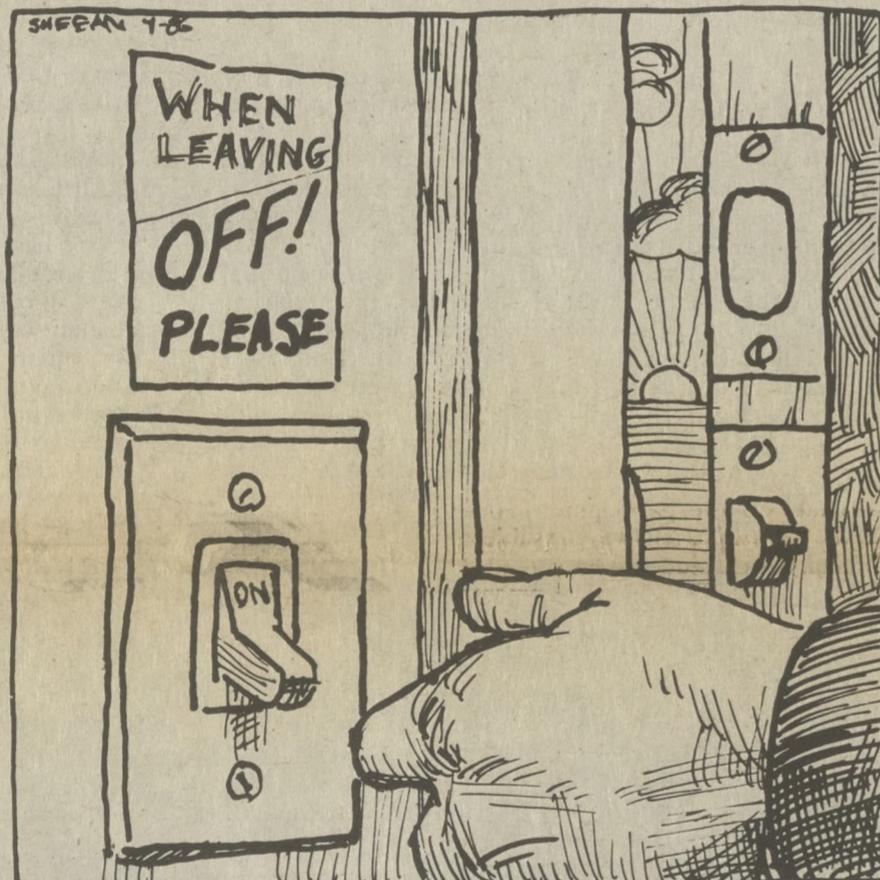
It was a place to acquire undergraduate credits, occupational skills, or the remediation for some students getting a late or put-off start into higher education.

The question of money rears its ugly head...

As to who or what is being cut, take a look around you. Many fine professors and staff have already been let go. The ones left are in constant fear of Scissortitis. They are now being asked to take un-paid furloughs. Anyone who works knows what it is like to miss a full week's pay. (Particularly those with families to feed and clothe.)

Many of those remaining are actually looking for places to go, before the next almost inevitable cut comes along. Unfortunately we will lose some to other fields of employment from which they'll never return. This will be a great loss, not only to the teaching community, but to the rest of us as well.

Besides students, professors, and staff, the physical body of this campus is also suffering. Because of cut staff and funds, the buildings are beginning to show signs of disrepair. Burnt-out bulbs are not changed, classrooms need sweeping, roof leaks not tended to, etc...The remaining staff does the best it can.



This no longer seems to be the clear definition and there are some members on the Los Angeles Community College (LACCD) Board of Trustees that want to change all or part of the old definition. They, however, have not made clear just what they want to change it to.

The question of money rears its ugly head at this point. THE BUDGET is the purported carrier of the afore-mentioned disease, Scissortitis. One of its symptoms is this: the buckiss.

The Administration says that they are trying to keep the college going with the limited funds available to us and that those monies come from (allocated by) the Board of Trustees.

A seemingly callous and arrogant LACCD Board of Trustees says that Governor Deukmejian is responsible because he cut THE BUDGET.

The Governor's Office is mostly silent on the issue of the community colleges and seems to be concentrating mostly on the four year universities and the public schools, K through 12.

When the subject of the money from the California Lottery arises, we are given creative accounting mumbo-jumbo. Dr. Monroe Richman claimed that the estimated revenue from the Lottery had

already been figured into THE BUDGET and that we were still showing a deficit of \$5 million, which we then had to borrow.

The newspapers are constantly reporting that the Lottery is taking in even more than was anticipated. The LACCD Trustees are telling us that the money is being spent even before we get it. All this money being spent on less students who by the way are also paying a (albeit) small tuition.

'Tis a puzzlement!

There is not one department on campus that was or is safe (immune) from Scissortitis.

The Daily News in a report by Peter Schrag, Jan. 23, 1986 stated that a new chancellor, Joshua Smith, has been hired. He and a legislatively mandated commission headed by Lee Kerschner are doing a study with recommendations for changes in the community colleges. That report is due this month.

We'll again have to wait and see. In the meantime, hopefully, one of the patients down with Scissortitis (Valley College) will not expire before some constructive action is taken.

If, however, things go on as they've been going, this message is for the last person left.

"Please shut the lights and close the door behind you."

Valley Star

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LETTERS

The Valley Star is happy to receive and, if possible, publish letters from its readers.

Star reserves the right to condense all letters for space considerations. Submitted letters should be limited to 350 words. Letters are subject to editing if they are obscene, libelous, or

make racial, ethnic, or religious denigrations.

Letters should be signed and, if applicable, should include student's major and ID number. Letters may be presented in the Valley Star office, Business Journalism 114, by Monday for the following Thursday.





MIXED REACTIONS—The audience at yesterday's board meeting responds with applause following an emotional appeal by one speaker. At right, trustees Lindsay Conner, Hal

Budget . . .

(Continued from page 1)

our budget over the next two years.

"It is with great care that we have to resort to such a drastic and painful measure."

Trustee Wallace Albertson said, "There is not one of us sitting here who wants to cast an affirmative vote, but the only thing I can say is that we will cast that vote sincerely and in the best interests of this district and with the idea that we can build this system back to the kind vitality it should have."

The Board also approved the regionalization of programs that are declining in enrollment by a vote of 6-0. Garvin was not in the room when the vote was cast.

At the time this article went to press, the trustees were

in closed session voting on other budget-cutting measures.

The measures include laying off additional classified employees, reducing the work week for all employees reducing the work week in the summer, furloughing administrators and classified personnel, giving faculty unpaid vacations during spring and winter breaks, reducing salaries for all employees, and increasing faculty loads.

"I have an accountability to the public and to the district," said Board President Monroe Richman. "But mostly I have an accountability to myself. I have to live with myself and with what vote I cast."



JANNE K. BIEHLER / Valley Star

Need for higher education stressed during Chicano youth conference

By BLANCA L. Adajan, Opinion Editor

Valley's MEChA hosted the "Second San Fernando Valley La Raza Youth Conference" on campus last Thursday, Jan. 30.

The conference, the theme for which was "Pride, Education, and Self-Determination," was attended by well-over 400 students from junior high and high schools in the San Fernando Valley.

Although the day began with a driving downpour, this did not seem

to dampen the spirits of the participants. Dr. Mary Lee, President of Valley, opened the day's activities with words of welcome and an urging for the kids to "stay in school."

Dr. Lee was followed by guest speakers such as Daniel Osuna of the Sony Corp., Fred Aguilar of Prudential Insurance, San Fernando City Councilman Jess Margarito, and Corinne Sanchez, executive director of El Proyecto Del Barrio.

Businessman Daniel Osuna spoke about Chicano and Latino history, leaders and heroes, and traditions and holidays Chicanos might not learn about in school.

Councilman Margarito told the students that he did not have college-level reading, writing, and speaking skills when he enrolled at Valley College in 1968.

"An over-whelming majority of Hispanics still lack these skills," he said. "We must force reforms, process change and take control of our own lives."

Businessman Daniel Osuna spoke about Chicano and Latino history, leaders and heroes, and traditions and holidays Chicanos might not learn about in school.

Other speakers urged students to stay in school, finish high school, and to strive for higher education.

After lunch, which was provided by Pioneer Chicken and Coca-Cola, the students were broken up into small groups and they then attended workshops.

The topics for the workshops ranged from "Why stay in school?", to "Employment and Career Options", "Responsible Decision Making", "Positive Self Image", and "Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention."

In evaluation sheets turned in at the end of the day, students were asked to

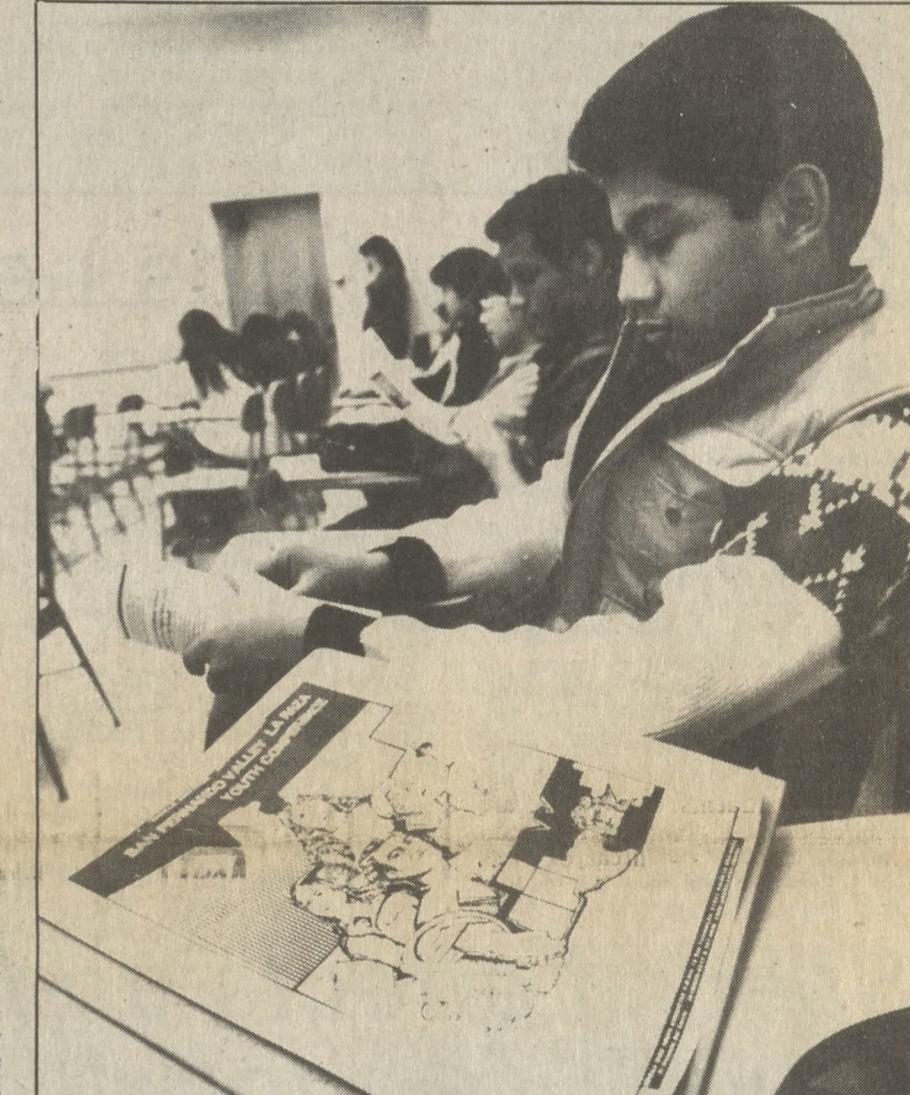
write about their impressions of the conference and workshops.

Jose Angel Vega, a 9th grader from Sepulveda Jr. High, said "I really enjoyed this program... I came because I wanted to get out of school, but I never thought that it would be this interesting and this much fun. I learned a lot of things today and it made me want to go to school and learn more."

Another Sepulveda Jr. High student, Joseph Romero, said "I'd like to thank the people who came to spend their time with us. I liked listening to their experiences and meeting new people. I learned a lot more about myself than I had known before."

Doris Richardson, a counselor here at Valley College, participated in one of the workshops and was the subject of many of the students that attended her workshop. The general comments were that she really touched them and made them think about their future.

Veronica Arreguin, Commissioner of Chicano Studies and vice president of MEChA, said, "I hope this conference is just a beginning. We've opened up a new avenue for the kids as well as for ourselves. The students' reactions and expressions were a big thrill for me."



JOHN KRIL / Valley Star
CONTEMPLATING THE FUTURE—Nelson Sanchez reflects on presentation entitled "Drugs and Alcohol Abuse" during the "Second La Raza Youth Conference," held last Thursday on campus.

Valley student dies in traffic accident

By KATHY CROUCH, Sports Editor

Kevin B. English, a member of Valley's baseball team, was killed last Thursday morning in a freeway traffic accident.

English, 18, died of head injuries when thrown from his Volkswagen van after it was struck by a hit-and-run driver on the southbound Golden State Freeway in Pacoima, reported California Highway Patrol (CHP) officer Robert Vargas.

The CHP is currently seeking witnesses to the accident.

A graduate of Saugus High School, English was in his first year at Valley. At Saugus High he had been voted as the team's Most Improved Player in his senior year. He had planned to play for the Monarchs this spring.

The English family announced plans Saturday to form a scholar-

ship fund in his memory for Saugus High's most-improved players of future years.

"Hopefully, it will pay for a semester of college so a player can concentrate on playing ball and not have to worry about where he's going to find money for tuition," said Eleanor English, his mother. "Kevin would have liked that."

Contributions to the fund may be sent to the Kevin English Memorial Baseball Scholarship in care of Saugus High School, 21900 West Centurion Way, Saugus, 91350.

A memorial mass was held for English Monday night at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Newhall.

English was buried Tuesday at Eternal Valley Memorial Park in Newhall.

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Entertainment

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 1986

Art exhibition to aid students

By DONNA RAMOS, Staff Writer

One dollar doesn't buy very much these days, but thanks to the "Second Annual Benefit Exhibition and Auction", \$1 may get you a signed original work of art.

The Benefit will be held in Valley's Art Gallery located in the Art Department, from Monday, Feb. 10, through Wednesday, March 5.

The gallery will be open to the public from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. and from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

The purpose of the exhibition and auction is to provide a student scholarship and to benefit the gallery's exhibition program.

Many prominent artists, art faculty, and gifted art students will be donating their works of art for the drawing.

Some of the artists that are contributing their pieces of art are: June Wayne, with three signed prints; Herb Rabbin (representing Artspace Gallery), donating a painting; and Robin Mitchell (represented by Susan Spiritus Gallery), donating a drawing.

Darryl Lizer, owner of the "Canvas Peddler", in North Hollywood,

will be donating all of the art frames for the event. Lizer also employs some of the students from Valley at his store.

There will be a silent auction and a drawing held on Wednesday, March 5, at 8 p.m.

The donated works will be separated into two groups. One to be auctioned off, and the other to be given away through drawings.

The auction will allow people to put their bids in writing. The bids will be placed in the boxes below the art. At 8 p.m., the bids will be collected and each piece of art will go to the highest bidder.

For those who would like to take a chance in the drawings, (they will be held on the same night as the auction) coupons can be purchased at any time during the event when the Art Gallery is open.

Coupon prices are \$1 per coupon or 8 for \$5 and 50 for \$25. It is not necessary to be present the night of the drawing to win.

For further information on the Benefit, contact Dennis Reed, Gallery Director, or Robin Horn, Assistant Director in the Art Department.



Gardener to donate work

By JULIE BAILEY, Associate View Editor

The image of starving, unashed, unkept, longhaired bohemian artists screaming and writhing in lonely attics as they anguish over each brush stroke is passe.

Today's artists are a different breed.

Take, for example, Valley art student Gene Blossom, whose landscape painting of the Colorado Divide is among the works donated by various artists to the "Second Annual Benefit Exhibition and Auction" to be held at the Art Gallery starting Feb. 10.

Blossom, who works as a gardener at Valley, prefers gardening to starving, which is why, after a year of working as an artist/illustrator for Barker Brothers in 1957, he switched careers and took up gardening.

"It was a great job at Barker Brothers," Blossom said. "but when one job contract ran out there was no guarantee another would follow. So, when I got the opportunity to work as a gardener for the City of Los Angeles, I took it."

Gardening became his career,

but his love for art and his need to express that love by creating works with his own hands remained steadfast over the years.

"I paint from nature and keep a file of photographs for references," said Blossom, a soft-spoken man, who, when questioned about his art, talks instead about the distinguished artists he has studied with, rather than his own accomplishments.

His accomplishments include an entry into the Annual Presbyterian Church Pasadena Art Show the end of last summer.

The watercolor landscape painting donated to the Art Gallery Benefit show is the first of his works to be put on view at Valley.

"It's a painting of the Colorado Divide at winter from a perspective of 50-60 miles above the surface," explained Blossom.

Blossom will be in the gallery from time to time during the show. His short-cropped hair which is almost as white as the Colorado snow he has captured on canvas, will make him easy to recognize.

Symphony finds new home at Valley

By GENE HERD, Staff Writer

The San Fernando Valley Symphony is making our Campus Center in Monarch Hall its rehearsal home.

After a two-year hiatus, the orchestra has regrouped behind the musical direction and innovative concepts of its 27-year-old conductor, Lois W. Johnson.

Lack of funding cut the 1984 schedule short, but now with an aggressive board of directors, new patrons, and a grant from Chevron USA, the 1986 season looks like it could be the start of something big.

Johnson and the orchestra made their debut on Saturday, Jan. 25, before an audience of over 700 in

the Reseda High School auditorium.

While Johnson conducted Aaron Copland's "Appalachian Spring," a 30-by-14-foot screen illuminated photograher James Westwater's images of Appalachia. The concert included two works by Handel: "Concerto Grossso op. 7 No. 1" and "Water Music."

During "Water Music", the screens projected Westwater's photography of various landmarks in the San Fernando Valley.

Johnson ended the concert in a majestic mood with Beethoven's 2nd "Grand" Symphony.

The night was a box office and a critical success, with all three

metropolitan papers running good reviews.

While radiating an aura of energy that seems to always accompany success, Johnson speaks enthusiastically about future concerts.

"We want to do fun-type things," she said. "We are now thinking about performing Bernstein's "West Side Story" using two dancers.

Currently Johnson, her husband, William, and various volunteers work out of their garage/office coordinating the maze of logistics involved in operating the non-profit organization.

"We have five board members who do everything—it took two months of solid work to produce this concert," said Johnson.

Maybe now the growing pains will ease a bit as the scent of success permeates the cultural community.

"We have the best musicians in town," Johnson said. "Now what we need is a home of our own, like the Warner Center."

The San Fernando Valley Cultural Foundation is currently raising money for a major music center in the Valley, and the San Fernando Valley Symphony should be the obvious choice for the orchestra-in-residence.



SYMPHONY AT VALLEY—The San Fernando Valley Symphony has taken up residency in Monarch Hall.

Special effects add fresh, special new touch to 'F/X'

By BILL BUTMAN, Staff Writer

Movie-goers may be misled by the title of the new Orion Pictures release, *F/X* believing it to be a low-budget science fiction film, or another tastelessly gory flick, featuring lots of blood but no plot. This is not the case.

In movie parlance, *F/X* means special effects, and of course, the viewer is treated to several very professional illusions, which are violent and bloody.

What makes *F/X* work is that it doesn't rely on special effects to carry the story.

F/X is an entertaining, suspenseful thriller, and is also very humorous. It's "tongue-in-cheek" attitude toward the fake violence permeates the entire film.

The man behind the exciting special effects is John Stears, a two-time Oscar winner for "Thunderball" and "Star Wars", and the inventor of the robot R2D2.

Stears validated the film's seemingly incredible premise by stating, "I've been asked on at least three occasions to create illusions in the real world. I can't, and I won't give any details because the government agencies were involved and though I turned the jobs down, I was sworn to secrecy."

Veteran Australian actor Bryan Brown stars as Rollie Tyler, a special effects wizard who is

recruited by the Justice Department to stage the fake assassination of a Mafia turncoat, who is slated to testify against his former colleagues.

However, the assignment doesn't come off as planned and the action that follows will keep viewers on the edge of their seats.

The decision to cast Brown in the lead was a wise one. Though he is a relative unknown to American audiences, he is an extremely fine actor, with a pleasant screen presence and the "fresh look" that the producers of *F/X* were looking for.

More familiar to casual moviegoers, Brian Dennehy plays Detective Lieutenant Leo McCarthy, a gruff, brutally honest New York Police Department maverick.

According to the film's director, Robert Mandel, the part of McCarthy was "written for an older cop, originally. Though Dennehy is young and fresh, he has an old soul."

Mandel has succeeded in drawing out fine performances from the entire cast, with the exception of Marthe Gehman, who plays Andy, Rollie's special effects assistant. The role would have been better suited to someone who could act.

"Characters are what draw me into the movies," said Mandel.

His biggest influences are directors that focus on the characters, such as Milos Forman, George Roy Hill, and Sidney Lumet. He also considers Steven Spielberg to be "a master of (the) camera and character."

F/X is Mandel's third film. His future looks promising.

The film's co-producer, Jack Wiener said, "I was impressed by 'Independence Day', (Mandel's first film) and wanted a fresh look." Mandel has not betrayed Wiener's confidence.

The producers also showed confidence in the writing team of Robert T. Megginson and Gregory Fleeman. *F/X* is their first major screenwriting credit.

Helping to bring the writers' vision to life was cinematographer Miroslav Ondricek. Mandel and Stears relied heavily on him while filming the many complex *F/X* illusions.

The film flows seamlessly, thanks to editor Terry Rawlings. According to Wiener, "It was in the cutting room that we found the rhythm of the film."

All of this collaborative expertise makes for a fast-paced, entertaining film.

F/X opens tomorrow.

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Audition Forms available in CC100, CC102,
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For more info or questions contact Bruce Najbergier
in CC102 or call 781-1200, ext. 361.



Monarchs top league rivals

By KATHY CROUCH, Sports Editor

The Valley women's basketball team added yet another number in the win column Friday night, humiliating Antelope Valley College (AVC) at home, 78-47.

Valley's top scorer Tina Johnson, who poured in 19 points, summed up her feelings in one word.

"Great," she said. "This feels better than the last win (Trade Tech, Jan. 29)."

Valley's defense was in top form as they held AVC scorers to a 31 percent shooting average.

"It was a rough night," said AVC Head Coach Jane Cwayana. "We have been averaging 60 to 70 points a game. Valley had an excellent defense."

Indeed, Johnson pulled down 17 rebounds for Valley while freshman Lisa Rodriguez grabbed 10 rebounds.

Valley checked in offensively with a 51 percent team shooting average. Freshman Maryjo Testa had 18 points, Jill Daniels took it easy with 16 points, and Rodriguez hit five for six for 10 points.

"It was an outstanding game," said Valley Head Coach Jim Stephens. "Team confidence is building. I'm real proud."

Rounding out the scoring for Valley Kristin Bregel had six points, Lenise Collins had five points, and Monique Brown put in two points.

The Monarchs have been playing outstanding basketball since opening the MVC season. At 4-0, they have averaged 71 points per game while holding their opponents to an average of 56 points.

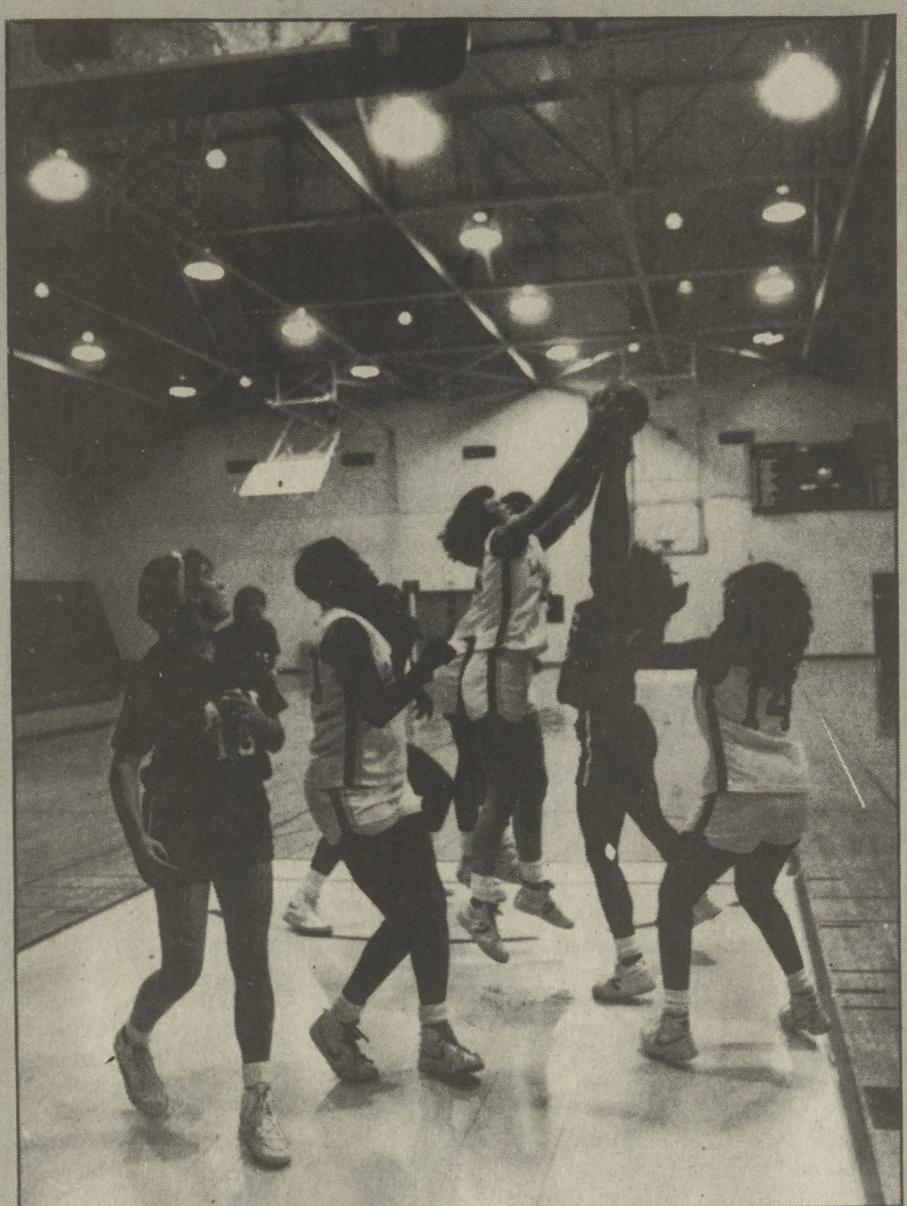
L.A. Trade Tech's Head Coach Jim DeSalvo recently said that the upcoming MVC season, "will be a dog fight."

Well, Jan. 29, defending state champion Trade Tech found itself barking up the wrong tree when they looked for a win against Valley's women's basketball team.

Led in scoring by Daniels, who dropped in a mere 35 points, Valley beat Trade Tech, 76-71.

Coming off a 57-1 record over the past two seasons, Trade Tech was undefeated in MVC play for the last three years.

The Monarchs will face Trade Tech again, tomorrow at 5 p.m. at Trade Tech College.



THIS ONE'S MINE—Valley utility center/forward, Kristin Bregel takes control of a loose ball in last Friday night's victory over Antelope Valley College.



AERIAL BATTLE—Valley's Fred Lewis leads the pack in a struggle under the basket. Valley lost to West L.A. College overtime, 85-84, last Friday night at home. The game was tied at 75-75 when regulation time expired.

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Football to be in new league

By STEVE FOUNTAIN, Staff Writer

For the third time in five years, Valley's football team has been assigned to a new league.

The Monarchs have spent the past three seasons in the six team Southern California Conference (SCC). Under a reorganization plan developed and approved by area coaches, the SCC will be expanded to twelve teams.

These teams will be divided evenly between two leagues: the American

and National. The top team from each league will meet in a post-season bowl game to determine the SCC champion.

The bowl name and location have yet to be decided upon.

The Monarchs will be in the National League with Victor Valley and Mt. San Jacinto colleges, College of the Desert, Los Angeles Harbor and Southwest colleges.

The American League will be

comprised of Rio Hondo, Chaffey, Antelope Valley, San Bernardino, West Los Angeles (WLAC) and East Los Angeles (ELAC) colleges.

The new schedule puts the Valley vs. Pierce rivalry on hold for at least one season. Once Valley has cleared its pre-season playing commitments, inquiries will be made as to the possibility of scheduling the cross-town rivals in a pre-season duel, said Ferrero.

Rollie Tyler is the movies' best special effects man. He can show you a thousand ways to die.

Now somebody wants him to do it for real. But is he the weapon or the victim?

He's going to need every trick from every movie he ever made just to get even... and get out alive.

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Sportsline by KATHY CROUCH

Putting it all in perspective



"Perspective—use it or lose it."
—Richard Bach

Who cares!
Granted, the Super Bowl was an exciting climax to a gritty, dramatic, NFL season.

I have total respect for dedicated athletes. They are a highly motivated, hard working, and self-sacrificing group.

But there are more important things to think about.

Perspective. Remember?

Sure, the laws of life say we have to go, sooner or later. But lately it seems so many are going sooner. Too soon. Too young.

These tragic events have a way of bringing a person down to earth. Some days I just have to sit back, take a deep breath, and remember that worrying about matters trivial and inane is such a big joke that I almost cry laughing.

There it goes again, like a small child tugging on my sleeve. I can't seem to shake off those words: Perspective. Keep things in perspective.

O.K. So I take a step back and the pieces are supposed to fit together. Right? Wrong. I see a lot of confusing gaps left behind.

I guess I'm left searching for the elusive answer to a rhetorical question. Why is there tragedy? Could it be to teach us mortals to keep things in perspective? Perhaps.

Financial aid a source of frustration for many students

By LISA FLAGLORE, Assoc. Opinion Editor

The financial aid system in the L.A. Community College District (LACCD) has drawn heavy criticism since it was centralized in the fall of 1984.

Students have criticized the system for being too slow and unresponsive.

Administrators say that the sluggishness of the financial aid system is the fault of the students.

"Many financial aid students have not lived up to their obligations," said Kenneth Washington, Vice Chancellor of the LACCD. "Much of the documentation being submitted is inaccurate or incomplete."

"When a student submits an application that is inaccurate in some way that inaccuracy must be cleared up and then the application goes back into the bottom of the pile. This slows things enormously."

Washington does admit that there are problems in the system.

"We are operating at an 80-85 percent level of efficiency right now," he said, "which means we could be doing at least 15 percent better."

Washington also said that the LACCD is not living up to its full responsibility to students applying for financial aid. We aid between 10 and 15 percent of students, but there are 40-45 percent out there that need aid," he said.

Washington said that much of the problem lies in the centralization process instated in 1984.

Briefly, Centralization unified the financial aid system. Before centralization all financial aid applications were processed on each individual campus. Now applications from all nine colleges in the district are being sent to a central office located at East Los Angeles College (ELAC).

"Centralization is not a bad idea, it just has never been given an opportunity in terms of being fully staffed," said Washington. "Last year was pretty miserable. We were very understaffed and many of the staff were not trained specifically for financial aid duties."

Washington did say that there is a rumor that a partial decentralization is being planned, but there is nothing definite yet.

Not everyone agrees with Washington's views on centralization. Doris Richardson, former EOP&S counselor and current in-house counselor at Valley, doesn't believe that centralization was a change for the better.

"As far as I was concerned it (Centralization) didn't work," she said. "We had a good financial aid program at Valley. For the most part, it worked. Students got their aid on time."

"I think Centralization changed that."

Nonetheless, centralization isn't the only problem that exists as far as Susan Dudasik, ASU commissioner of public relations, is concerned.

Dudasik is concerned with student apathy.

"If the students got out and fought for themselves I'm convinced that the financial aid situation would have been straightened out by now," she said. "The students simply won't organize to get anything done. You can't totally blame the district."

Dudasik has no specific ideas as to what is behind this apathy, but

expresses concern that if things don't change soon the students will be the ones to lose.

Despite shifting blame, many students are finding it very difficult to continue with their education. Many simply are not receiving expected funds and are suffering severe hardships as a result.

Barbara Davidson is one of the students the system hit the hardest. She is a mother of two and a sophomore at Valley.

Davidson counted on her financial aid award to pay her rent. When the check was late she stalled the landlord. She was able to stall him for three months. After that time she still hadn't received her aid and consequently was evicted.

She lost everything she owned.

Anita Fearman is another student which slow financial aid took its toll on. She didn't receive her '85 '86 season award until after the semester was over. "If I hadn't had my parents to borrow money from I would have had many bounced checks, rent unpaid, etc.," she said. "And I have a little girl to take care of."



JOHN KRIL / Valley Star
FORGING AHEAD—Raymond Brooks a member of Valley's track team conquers the hurdles.

News Notes

APPLICATIONS FOR FINANCIAL AID

Applications for financial aid for the 1986-87 academic year are currently available in the financial aid office.

Applications received by May 23, 1986 will have priority consideration.

Documents received after May 23 will be considered for aid only if funds are still available.

Students who wish to apply for Cal Grants A, B or C should request a Cal Grant supplement, as well as Student Aid Application for California (SAAC). Deadline for Cal Grants is Feb. 11, 1986.

Cal Grant Supplement requires GPA verification. Allow a few days for campus processing.

Additional information and applications are available at the Financial Aid Office, Campus Center, Room 100. Hours are

8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., Monday through Friday.

FINANCIAL AID

Students interested in obtaining financial aid for the current academic year (85-86) are urged to apply now.

Students applying by Feb. 14, 1986 may still be considered for aid programs other than PELL and GSL, depending upon the availability of funds. See Financial Aid Office for information.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE DAY

ASU Senate is sponsoring Membership Drive Day on Thursday, Feb. 6, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Monarch Square.

Clubs will be represented and offering information.

For further information contact Frank Tullo ASU president, at x361.

HALLEY'S COMET COURSE OFFERED

Registration for Comet Halley, a three night short course offered through Community Services will run from March 6 - 8.

To register contact Community Services Office at (818) 988-3911.

REGISTERED NURSING PROGRAM

Applications for LAVC's registered nursing program for the fall, 1986 program are available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays in Room 113 of the Engineering Building.

Applicants should apply as soon as possible.

MICROCOMPUTER WORKSHOPS

Workshops explaining microcomputers and their ap-

plications will begin on Thursdays, Feb. 20, for two weeks with "Basic Computer Programming for Micros," from 6 to 10 p.m. Registration fee is \$69.

"Computer Literacy" workshop will meet from 7 to 10 p.m. on Thursdays for five weeks starting Feb. 20. Enrollment fee is \$35.

Registration takes place from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday in the Community Services Office.

For more details on other workshops call (818) 988-3911.

TALENT SHOW

Valley's Associated Student Union will be sponsoring a talent show, to be held March 6, at 7:30 p.m. in Monarch Hall. Applications for performers are available

in the ASU office, CC 102, and must be turned in no later than February 14 by 3 p.m.

All performances are limited to three minutes and all performers must be enrolled at Valley.

Cash prizes will be awarded to winners.

For more information, contact Bruce Najbergier, Frank Tullo or Dorothy Kaplan at 781-1200, Ext. 361.

BLOOD DRIVE

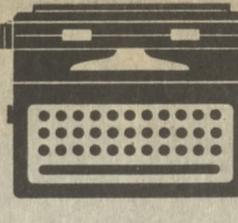
A blood drive will be held on February 24, 1986 from 8:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Monarch Hall.

PLANETARIUM SHOW

The LAVC astronomy club will sponsor "Halley's Comet—An Ancient Visitor" at the LAVC planetarium on Sunday, February 16, at both 8 and 9 p.m. The shows are open to all and will discuss Halley's Comet, how to view it, and how to photograph it.

A viewing session in the LAVC observatory will follow the lectures.

The cost will be \$3.50 for adults and \$2.00 for children at the door.



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RENT SKIS, BOOTS & POLES
\$6 Per Day (after second day)
Including Boot Carrier

- Complete Clothing Rental Department
- Tire Chain Rentals
- Car Rack Rentals
- Complete Tune-Up Centers

G.L.M. LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

Los Angeles	(213) 652-4030
Pasadena	(818) 449-6544
Covina	(818) 331-4678
Van Nuys	(818) 785-0611
Canoga Park	(818) 346-8527
Torrance/Gardena	(213) 327-9567
Long Beach	(213) 439-2006

STORE HOURS
12 NOON TO 9 P.M. MON. THRU SAT.

LEARN TO SKI PACKAGE!!

Includes:
• Rental Equipment (Skis, Boots, Poles, Lift Ticket All Day Beginner, Lite Only)
• Lesson (Half Day Group Lesson)
• Lift Ticket (All Day Beginner, Lite Only)

\$27

BASKIN-ROBBINS ICE CREAM STORE

At Victory and Fulton in Van Nuys
(818) 787-3382

**This Valentine's Day,
go all out.**

Go ahead, show that special someone how much you care by sending the FTD® Hearts 'n' Flowers™ Bouquet. A beautiful arrangement in an impressive keepsake caddy. It's so easy. Just call your FTD Florist.

Go ahead. Do something really exciting!



VALENTINE'S WEEK IS FEBRUARY 9-15.

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Let's see your
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Call 818-B-U-R-G-E-R for locations.